

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for establishing resilient paths through an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network including at least an ingress media gateway, an egress media gateway, a first ATM switch, a second ATM switch, a link A connecting said egress media gateway to said first ATM switch, a link B connecting said first ATM switch to said ingress media gateway, a link C connecting said egress media gateway to said second ATM switch, a link D connecting said second ATM switch to said ingress media gateway, said method comprising:

a. setting up a primary SVC connection from said egress media gateway to said ingress media gateway by using a specified ATM end system address (AESAs) of a port on said ingress media gateway over said link A; and,

b. setting up a backup SVC connection using the same AESA from said egress media gateway to said ingress media gateway over said link C,

wherein at least one primary SVC and one backup SVC connections are established between said egress media gateway and said ingress media gateway over different routes for the same call between said egress end office and said Ingress end office.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

c. detecting a failure in said primary SVC; and,
d. switching the call connection between said egress end office and said ingress end office from the primary SVC to said backup SVC,

whereby if there is a failure in said primary path, the call connection between said egress and ingress end offices are switched to said backup SVC by an Automatic Protection Switching (APS) signal in a manner that is not dependent on the physical configuration of said ATM network and by using end-to-end supervision of the call connection path.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
e. informing all affected SVCs of the failure status of said primary SVC through the corresponding backup SVC using said APS signal.

5 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said detecting step c. further comprises:

f. detecting an ATM switch failure.

10 5. The method of claim 3 wherein said detecting step c. further comprises:

g. detecting a media gateway failure.